

THE ADVANCE.

JAMESBURG, N. J.:

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THE ADVANCE:

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NEW-JERSEY STATE HOME FOR BOYS.

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Short communications on subjects relative to State Home matters will be welcome. Such communications, and other matters intended for the Editor, should be addressed to "THE ADVANCE."

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GRIT.

THE lack of "GRIT" has been the ruin of many persons. The failure to use the powers which God has given, education cultivated and quickened, and the results of experience, has sent many a soul to perdition. Most persons have far more native powers and talents which may be productive of their success than they can imagine or use. One of the wealthiest merchants in New-York failed in business many years ago, losing everything he possessed except his manhood. He went into a business place where he was acquainted, and said to a member of the firm that he had no bread for his family. He further said: "I am ready to go as messenger for you or perform any other service." He hung up his coat and commenced work there in a humble capacity, beginning at the lowest rung in the ladder. Previously this man's note was eagerly accepted anywhere in the city for any amount he chose to write. This "gritty" man gradually rose, step by step, to the top of the ladder again. To-day his check is good for a million dollars. A noted business man in Boston failed, and he was without bread, and nearly out of clothes. "Grit" came to his rescue, and stirred up his energies. In his younger days he was an expert book-keeper, earned a handsome salary, and gradually rose to a prominent place in business circles. Misfortunes overtook him, and he lost all the property he had. Instead of going round and whining about his troubles, or committing suicide, or doing dishonorable things, he took a common cotton-hook in his hand and went down to a wharf and offered to help unload a ship of cotton at so much an hour—the compensation given to a common day-laborer. This man of "grit" attracted the attention of his employers by his industry, earnestness and intelligence, and he was soon asked to come up higher. He laid aside the cotton-hook, resumed the quill, and not long after began to attract the attention of sharp business men. He rose rapidly again, and is now one of the leading shipping merchants of Boston, with his ships sailing on nearly every sea, and his check is good for hundreds of thousands of dollars. Such are common examples of what "grit" will accomplish in nineteen times out of twenty. Young men of to-day, your chances are good for successful careers if you have the "grit" to avail yourselves of your opportunities.

DON'T BE FOOLED.

ONE of the boys in this School the other day wrote a letter to his mother, asking her to come and see him next visiting-day, as he had something very important to say to her. He added among other things the following sentence: "Be sure to send a lawyer here next month. He can get me out if he comes here on Trustee-day."

Some poor deluded persons imagine that if they fee a lawyer he can secure their discharge from the School on short notice. Some parents have paid poor briefless lawyers anywhere from ten to twenty-five and even more dollars to pay them to write letters to our authorities, or make personal appeals to the members of our Board, asking for the discharge of their boys before the rules of the School are complied with, believing that in so doing it will be done. Whenever this is done the friends of our boys are sure to be fooled out of their money, for our Trustees do not parole or discharge boys through any such methods—in fact, such methods only work against said boys. The surest way for a boy to secure an early release is for him to obey the rules of the School at all times, and fairly earn his honors through good behavior. Parents should not be cheated out of their hard-earned money by paying lawyers for any such purpose. There are many honorable and high-minded lawyers who would not do such things, but there are also many legal "sharks" who never hesitate to cheat poor persons out of their earnings, and it is this class mainly who accept such jobs as here mentioned. Such lawyers never have influence with our official Board.

MANY a disconcerted plan has been the making of a man.

RELIABLE PERSONS WANTED.

In looking over the columns of the great daily newspapers one will notice among the "Want" advertisements such announcements as the following:

"A reliable man wanted to take charge of a farm;"
"A reliable man wanted to superintend a mill;"
"A reliable man wanted in a store;"
"A reliable man wanted as a book-keeper;"
"A reliable man wanted in a bank;"
"A reliable man wanted as a foreman in a shop;"
"A reliable man wanted to take care of horses;"
"A reliable man wanted as a gardener;"
"A reliable man wanted as a department clerk in a wholesale house;"
"A reliable boy wanted in an office," etc., etc.

And these wants are desired in every human employment. What does this mean? Did you ever see an advertisement for an "unreliable" or careless person to fill any place, important or otherwise? There seem to be no end to the demand for "reliable" persons, male and female. Why, young women want them for husbands; parents want them for sons-in-law. Persons in trouble anxiously inquire for a reliable lawyer whom they can safely consult; the sick want a reliable physician; the churches seek for reliable men as ministers, even if they don't always advertise for them in this way in the newspapers. Reliable men are wanted as architects, engineers, contractors, presidents and superintendents, and the big railroad and other corporations do not find enough of them to prevent accidents and smash-ups and wrecks at sea, and tumble-down buildings. Neither are there enough reliable men to fill all the positions in great manufacturing, banks, insurance offices, etc. If there were we would not hear of so many defalcations. Reliable men do not crowd any of the business or professional occupations. Really smart young men should early make up their minds to become reliable in whatever they find to do, and nothing is easier. It all depends upon the resolve to be honest, truthful, industrious and thorough in whatever they have to do or have to say. Let the word reliable ever be in your thoughts, if you have any desire to be successful and happy in this world.

WHAT IS A "TRUST?"

A GREAT deal is said now-a-days about "Trusts." Judging from all this clamor they must be dreadful things, seriously afflict humanity, and should be blotted out immediately or the world will soon be destroyed. And yet with all this noise and talk and denunciation, we have yet to see or hear of any clear definition of what a "trust" really is—that is, the kind of "trusts" so much talked of and written about. No man or political party are in favor of these "trusts," while all denounce them. It is said that no law exists which was framed for their benefit, and that under our constitution and system of government none can be made to destroy them—a curious state of things indeed. No lawmaker of either party has attempted to interfere with them, no one advocates them, yet lawmakers and nearly everyone else growls about them. During the next six months, while the Presidential campaign is in progress, great orators, briefless lawyers, country store loafers, and cranks of every degree, will be "spouting" in the most rabid manner against them, and after they have expended their indignation what more will the average hearers know about the knotty question? They won't know whether it is something good to eat or a rank poison. Now what is a "trust?" Is it an aggregation of business men joining their capital together for the purpose of gaining greater profits, saving expenses, protecting and increasing their products? Is it the joining of people together for the purpose of forming a great railroad or steamship corporation, whereby multitudes may have a chance to waste their earnings in traveling about the world? Or is it a combination of workmen formed for the protection of their interests, the increasing of wages, shortening the hours of labor, and dictating to employers who furnish them with employment and make it possible for them to gain a livelihood? We are curious to know which is which and what is what in the matter, and desire to know whether it is for the good of the community or for our personal interests to be opposed to or in favor of "trusts." Will some one clearly explain this question, and furnish a definition that all persons can understand and stand by?

In answer to a correspondent, we will say that THE ADVANCE is not gushing over the new name of this institution, nor do we know of any one else who is. There are already some twenty-five or thirty so-called "Homes" in this State for unfortunate children and impecunious persons generally, and it did seem like "crowding the mourners" to add to this number in our little State. However, the Legislature has christened us as a "Home," and therefore it must have been the proper thing to do, for the Legislature is always supposed to act wisely! At any rate it is our duty to obey the order without any excessive amount of growling.

A GOOD example is the best sermon.

A LINK BROKEN.

Death of Colonel James Sterling Yard.

WORDS fail to express our sentiments relative to the career and death of this distinguished citizen of New-Jersey, and our life-long and intimate personal friend. Mr. YARD's career was a many-sided one, his services to his town, county, state, church and friends so important, and his merits so great, that we feel unequal to the task of doing the subject justice. Sorry, indeed, are we at the idea that we shall never more look into that honest, kindly face, never enjoy his friendly social intercourse, never participate with him in public affairs, never peruse the bristling ideas coming from his wise and thoughtful brain as they were wont to be recorded in the columns of his newspaper. All these are now but a memory, yet thankful are we that they have been actually enjoyed by us in the past, and that we have been blessed and honored by them.

For more than a generation, we labored with Colonel YARD as members of the Executive Board of the New-Jersey Editorial Association, and being frequently brought into personal contact with him we learned to appreciate his wisdom and worth as an official and as a man. In all our intercourse we never knew him to do a dishonorable, mean, or ungenerous act, or even suggest one. He was at all times strictly honest and faithful in the discharge of his duties, and ever watchful of the interests committed to his charge. Courteous and obliging to all with whom he came into contact, firm in his opinions, he was frank in expressing them. When a matter was settled on the ground of principle, and principle was always his guiding-star, no one could mistake or question what he thought was right or the wisdom of it. And we can say this of all we ever knew or heard of his acts, in every enterprise of life in which he took part.

As an editorial writer, he was able, terse and clear. He enjoyed a controversy, and he conducted his side of it with great frankness and courteousness. He never indulged in slang, mean insinuations, misrepresentation and unfair criticism. There was no sting left behind, no matter how much one might disagree with him in his conclusions. While a sturdy believer in his political opinions, which he promulgated often with great energy, yet his opponents respected him, for they had reason to believe in at least his honesty in expressing them. His newspaper was always clean, most carefully edited, and consequently a power in his community and the State. He was a model editor. To briefly sum up his character it was one to be admired and might worthily be followed by every newspaper man and citizen generally. A devout Christian, he practiced what he preached. Integrity governed all his actions. A patriot, loving husband and father, a true friend, JAMES S. YARD was a MAN, every inch of him. Would that there were more built on the same model!

JAMES STERLING YARD was born in Trenton, N. J., April 20, 1826, and died at his residence in Freehold on Sunday evening, April 29, 1900. He was one of the best known newspaper men in New-Jersey. Space will not permit us to refer to only some of the prominent points in his eventful life. His father was Captain Joseph A. Yard, a descendant in the fourth generation from William Yard, who came to America previous to 1700, and was among the first settlers in the tract occupied by the original city of Trenton. Colonel Yard's grandfather was a carpenter, and erected the triumphal arch under which Washington passed at his reception at Trenton. Colonel Yard's mother was Mary Woodward Sterling, daughter of John Wesley Sterling of Mount Holly. He was one of eleven children.

At the age of fourteen or fifteen years he entered the Trenton *True American* office, there learned the trade of a printer, and became an expert workman. At the age of twenty he started the *Weekly Visitor*, which he disposed of in a few months, and afterwards started the *Village Record* at Hightstown, which, after passing through several hands became the *Gazette*, which is still published there. In January, 1854, he purchased the *Monmouth Democrat*, which he continued to publish until his death. He was post-master at Freehold from 1855 to 1860, when he resigned. In 1866 he established the *News* at Long Branch, which he published for several years.

For several years Mr. Yard was a member of the Monmouth County Board of Freeholders, and also one of the village Trustees and Mayor. He was a major in the Third Regiment of militia during three months' service at the outbreak of the civil war, and was afterward connected with all the military operations in the county for raising troops until the close of the war. Governor Parker appointed Major Yard paymaster of all the volunteers in this state. He was in command of Camp Bayard in Trenton and held several commissions under Governor Parker in connection with the Jersey troops in the field. Governor Parker appointed him commissioner of railroad taxation in 1873, in which office he remained until 1883. In 1878 Governor McClellan appointed him deputy quartermaster-general, and was retired in 1890. May 21, 1890, he was brevetted lieutenant-colonel. He was a member of the Masonic order, and at one time Master of the local lodge.

For over forty years Mr. Yard was a prominent member of the New-Jersey Editorial Association. In 1861 he was its President; then serving a few years on the Executive Committee, and in 1867 elected Treasurer. At every annual meet-

ing since then he has been re-elected, and was therefore Treasurer at the time of his death. Of course he was active in all the affairs of the Association since he first joined it.

In 1852 Mr. Yard became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hightstown, and upon removing to Freehold he affiliated himself with the Methodist Church there, becoming one of its most active and zealous workers, for several years the Superintendent of its Sunday School. He was for many years one of the Trustees of the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association, and was such at the time of his death. He was also a local preacher in Freehold.

In 1856 he married Adaline Clark, daughter of Daniel D. Swift of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Seven children were born to them, of whom there are now living Mrs. William M. Ivins of New-York, Mrs. Harvey of Reading, Mrs. Lawrence of Freehold and Captain Joseph A. Yard, the latter serving during the late Spanish War.

In addition to the editing of his own paper, about nine years ago he became an assistant editor of the Trenton *True American*, which position he filled with great ability until his health failed nearly two years ago. It is believed that this extra work contributed greatly to the failure of his health. Since then he has been a confirmed invalid, although he continued the editing of the *Democrat* up to within a few days before his death—all the time a great sufferer from his disease.

During all these years he filled many local and society positions with great honor and usefulness to the community and the State—ever faithful to every duty imposed upon him. His contributions to the local history of his county were many, and written with great accuracy and detail.

Mr. YARD's funeral took place in the Methodist Church at Freehold, on Wednesday afternoon of this week. The church was filled with many of the best citizens of the town, county, and from different parts of the State. There were quite a large number of his old editorial friends present. The ceremonies were solemn and impressive, conducted by several clergymen, who paid high and deserved tribute to the many and conspicuous merits and virtues of the deceased. The burial was in the family plot of the cemetery west of the town.

PROGRESSIVE PENOLOGY.

WE are indebted to Hon. E. G. COFFIN, Warden of the Ohio State Penitentiary at Columbus, from 1896 to 1900, for a volume entitled "Progressive Penology," consisting mainly of speeches and essays on Prison Management and Reform, or in other words the humane management of criminals. These speeches and arguments were delivered by Mr. COFFIN before audiences consisting of prisoners; the State Board of Charities; the Finance Committee of the Ohio State Assembly; at the National Prison Congress, and other places. Mr. Coffin is recognized as one of the brainiest and most progressive men engaged in the care of criminals, and always says something for serious thought by all engaged in the work of reforming men and women who have fallen into crime. The volume before us contains one hundred and fifty pages, and should be in the hands of all genuine philanthropists. As time and space permits we shall take occasion to refer to and quote from it for the edification of the readers of THE ADVANCE.

DR. H. D. ZANDT, our School physician, has had quite an experience this Spring with the firebugs. Some five or six weeks ago his barn was burned in the night and destroyed. He then saved his horses and much other material. He built a new barn, and but recently occupied it. On Monday night last, in some mysterious manner, the new barn was found on fire, and his two horses, wagons and other materials were consumed. There was but a partial insurance on the barn and other property. Incendiarism is believed to have been the cause. Of course we all sympathize with him, and hope he will soon find out, catch and roast the rascal that caused these losses. The doctor is a young man, and should not be discouraged at these petty misfortunes, however inconvenient they may be for the time being. Honesty and economy will in time fill a great many holes in a dilapidated pocket book, if faithfully availed of.

ARBOR-DAY, as we learn from our exchanges, was more generally observed this year than ever before by the schools of this State. Besides much tree-planting, the formal exercises were unusually interesting and instructive. Many prominent men and women—lawyers, clergymen, elocutionists and others—took part, and song, music, and speeches abounded, while the general display of flowers and other decorations helped to enliven the exercises. Hereafter the State Superintendent of Public Schools will have general charge of these exercises, and issue circulars, programs and other suitable information relative to the observance of the day, and all schools and institutions supported in whole or in part by State funds will be required to celebrate the day in a proper manner.

OUR School grounds are putting their Summer costumes on and are now looking very beautiful. There are not many handsomer surroundings on institution premises in this country. Our boys should be happy in being so pleasantly situated as they are here.